

I know no other butterfly which moults three times and no more, but I have verified the fact in this case repeatedly, keeping the larvæ in separate glasses and watching them through all their changes. I use half pint glasses, with tin tops, for all my larvæ, except the largest, as the Papilios, and for these also in their earlier stages, so that it is easy to examine and observe them. No larva moults without an interval of abstention from food, and absolute rest for 24 or more hours, and at this time the skin over head and second segment becomes white and swollen, making it impossible that a moult should be coming on without opportunity of knowing it. Nearly all larvæ moult four times, but *Philenor* alone of the Papilios bred by me, moults five times. Some of the hibernating larvæ moult but four times, as *Nephela* and *Eurytris*, others five times, as the large Argynnids. Some Argynnids which have a summer as well as winter brood, moult four times in the summer. So do *Tharos* and *Nycteis*, but five times in the hibernating brood. *Archippus* moults four times, as does *L. Bachmanni*, the species of *Limenitis*, and *Apatura*, though perhaps *A. Clyton* in some cases passes five moults in the winter brood. It is therefore something quite unusual for a species to be limited to three moults only, as in the case of *Gemma*.

DESCRIPTIONS OF SOME NEW SPECIES OF TABANIDÆ.

BY C. P. WHITNEY, MILFORD, N. H.

Chrysops cuclux.

♀. Length $6\frac{1}{2}$ –9 m. m. Face and cheeks black, shining, separated by yellow pollinose stripes. Frontal callus black, ocellar space blackish ferruginous, the yellow pollen between somewhat infuscated. Palpi blackish ferruginous. Antennæ: first two joints yellow, the second infuscated; third black, base fulvous. Thorax and scutellum black with white hairs, the usual stripes obsolete. Abdomen black, first two segments with a pale yellow lateral spot, seldom attaining the posterior margin of the second segment. The posterior segments with white hairs forming centrally obsolete triangles. Venter black clothed with white hairs. Feet black, sometimes tinged with ferruginous, posterior tarsi yellowish at base.

Wings: root, costal cell, three-fourths of the first basal and the abbreviated cross-band brown. The second basal cell is usually filled as far as the first, but more obscurely. There is sometimes a trace of a cloud beyond the stigma. The cross-band does not attain the posterior margin but crosses the fifth cell, the proximal end of which frequently contains a hyaline spot. A halo along the distal margin.

Seventeen ♀. June, Milford, N. H. One ♀ in Cambridge Museum.

This species is near *sordidus* O. S., but is smaller, lacks the gray posterior margins of the abdominal segment, the cross-band is more abbreviated and lighter colored, and the second basal cell is farther infuscated.

Chrysops nigribimbo.

♀. Length 5-6 m. m. Face ferruginous. Callosities and cheeks dark brown. Palpi brownish. Antennæ black, basal joint yellowish. Front cinereous, callus and ocellar space black. Thorax and abdomen black, sometimes viridescent, the thoracical lines obsolete. Legs varying from black to fulvous; the front coxæ, proximal half of front tibiæ, and the base of the four posterior tarsal joints being lighter colored. Wings: costal cell and stigma yellowish. Cross-band obsolescent, existing only as a brownish-yellow tinge usually vanishing entirely before it reaches the posterior margin, which it sometimes does in the fourth cell. First basal cell filled with the same tinge as cross-band. Second infuscated at extreme base only. In some examples a faint apical cloud is visible under the lens, occupying the extreme distal part of marginal and submarginal cells.

Milford, N. H. Abundant in Pine woods in July.

Chrysops cursim.

♀. Length 7-8 m. m. Face, cheeks and palpi yellow. Antennæ yellow, annulate portion black. Front covered with yellow pollen. Frontal callus fulvous margined above with an interrupted black line. Space around ocelli black. Thorax greenish-brown with yellowish stripes. Scutellum greenish-gray, usually with a transverse fulvous streak. Abdomen yellow. Second segment with two oblique oval spots anteriorly connate, attaining neither margin. The remaining segments with emarginate transverse stripes on the anterior portion. In some examples these stripes are abbreviated, forming two spots similar to those on the second segment and decreasing to the fifth. Venter yellow, apically infusate.

Legs yellow, anterior half of front tibiæ, front tarsi, tips of middle and posterior tarsi, extreme tip of posterior femora and distal third of posterior tibiæ, black. Wings: costal cell, about one-fourth of first basal, extreme base of second, cross-band, apical spot and a cloud on fifth vein, brown. The cross-band is narrowed posteriorly, reaching the margin in the fourth cell and barely crossing the vein into the fifth. The apical spot is narrow, extending along the costa and filling the apical third of the second submarginal cell.

Six ♀. July. Milford, N. H.

Tabanus superjumentarius.

♀. Length 16-19 m. m. Palpi long, slender, gray, thickly beset outwardly with short black hairs. Face and cheeks gray, with white pollen and hairs. Antennæ black, base of joints reddened, upper angle of third joint prominent. Front without ocellar tubercle, coarctate anteriorly, gray with a central brown spot and brown vertex with black hairs. Callus chestnut brown, higher than wide, fusiform above. Eyes naked, unicolorous. Thorax chocolate brown, with white stripes, the middle one narrow, geminate, abbreviate. Thorax and scutellum densely clothed with white hairs. Humeri and pleuræ pale carneous with black pile. Abdomen tapering, black, with dense appressed glossy hairs. Segments 3 to 6 faintly margined posteriorly with white, which expands centrally into small triangles on the anterior segments by a few white hairs. Venter black, whitish pollinose laterally, the segments margined with white and with white ciliæ. Legs black, with black hairs, base of tibiæ testaceous interiorly. Wings tinged with fuliginous. Base, costal cell and stigma pale yellow. A faint cloud on divarication of third vein. First posterior cell slightly coarctate.

Two ♀. July 4. Milford, N. H.

Tabanus Dodgei.

♀. Length 12-14 m. m. Face and cheeks densely covered with light gray pollen and long white hairs. Palpi whitish with white and a few black hairs. Antennæ pale yellow, third joint black, upper angle rounded. Front parallel, gray, no ocellar tubercle, callus dark chestnut brown, rectangular, a little wider than high, and frequently emarginate above. A disconnected ovate lanceolate spot above. Eyes pubescent, purple, with two parallel green stripes, the upper wider, and wider than

the intermediate space. Thorax brown with broad white stripes. Scutellum brown with black hairs. Abdomen brown with two broad white stripes of sub-equal width with the space between. Hind margin of segments white. Venter dark, covered with gray pollen, hind margins white. Feet yellowish, base of femora and tips of tarsal joints infuscated. Wings hyaline, costal cell and stigma pale yellow. Veins brown. First cell open.

Nine ♀ received from Mr. G. M. Dodge, Glencoe, Nebraska, to whom the species is affectionately inscribed.

Tabanus sparus.

♀. Length 9-11 m. m. Palpi yellowish-white with a few short white and black hairs. Face gray with white pollen. Antennæ fulvous, third joint compressed, upper angle obtuse, annulate portion black, short. Eyes large, naked, unicolorous, dark green with a purple reflection. Front coarctate, gray, no ocellar tubercle. Callus rectangular, a connate line above. Thorax brown with light gray stripes. Scutellum concolorous. Abdomen dark brown, the segments with white margins, the central triangles smaller than the oblique lateral ones, which are frequently disconnected from the margin on the posterior segments. Venter dark fulvous, black posteriorly, segment margins white. Legs varying from blackish brown to pale yellow, the base of tibiæ being lightest. Wings hyaline; stigma pale yellow. First cell open.

Milford, N. H. June and July. Abundant. One ♂, Prof. F. G. Sanborn, same locality, resembles ♀ closely, but the black on abdominal dorsum prevails and the tip of venter is darker.

This species resembles *pumilus* Macq., but is larger; the spots on second segment coalesce with the margin, the eyes are unicolorous, while *pumilus* has two bright green parallel stripes on purple ground.

PARASITE ON THE COMMON HOUSE-FLY.—Prof. Leidy recently stated that in examining various common animals of our household, he found a thread-worm infesting the house-fly. The worm is from a line to the tenth of an inch in length, and lives in the proboscis of the fly. It was found in numbers from one to three in about one fly in five. This parasite was first discovered by Mr. H. J. Carter, the well-known naturalist, in the house-fly of India, who described it as *Filaria muscæ*.—*Science-Gossip*.